

# AGRICULTURAL.

## Skinning the Land Must Stop.

Look at the statistics of our agricultural department. In every one of the States, in the North, in the South, in the East and even in the West, the yield per acre of all the great cereal crops has been steadily declining since the early years of the century. The American farmer has impoverished the soil—and then gone West. It is not certain that this process has even yet been arrested. The last statistics available for general comparison are not yet reassuring. The New England States have held their own, not by means of improved agriculture, but by the general establishment of manufacturing. The same process has been going on that converted the fertile lands of Virginia into pine barrens. Thousands of acres in the Eastern States have been abandoned as practically worthless. Meanwhile the streams of immigration and emigration have been going on. The Irish have come to Massachusetts, the old farmers of Massachusetts have gone to Ohio, the people of Ohio have gone to Indiana and Illinois, and the people of Indiana and Illinois have gone to Kansas and the farther West. Ever westward has been the movement until the current has come to a stop on the slope of the Pacific. At length there is no West to whose virgin soil we may flee. Our farmers no longer have the alternative of starving or moving West; they have the other alternative, the one which has long confronted the farmers of the old world, starvation or a better knowledge of the conditions under which nature will yield a bounteous and a profitable return. Nay, are we not in a worse condition than our European neighbors have been? For, alas, we have no unsettled America to which we may flee for land at a nominal price.—President C. K. Adams, Cornell University.

## Managing Manures.

Among some farmers there is a complaint that their horse manure "fire" or passes through the heating process which is so intense that the manure is well burned up. This is exceedingly injurious to the manure, and can, and should be prevented. It occurs, or is liable to occur, when the manure is thrown loosely into a pile, and without being disturbed, will commence to generate heat. Horse manure has a stronger tendency in that direction than that of most any other animal, and this can be prevented, and the value of the manure maintained, if it is kept moist until wanted for use. The same practice in connection with sheep waste will be valuable, and equally successful. We have always found that any manure that is left to itself, thrown loosely into a pile, was liable to become heated, but when packed tightly under the tread of animals, would be preserved with all its manure value retained. Sheep manure, while kept closely packed, excludes the air, will not heat, but when loosely pitched into a pile will soon heat and expel the valuable elements of fertility.

## The Mischievous Cut Worms.

Some of them ascend trees, shrubs and other plants in their destructive work, while most of them confine their operations to the surface, and work their mischief by cutting off young and tender plants even with the ground. Their work is done at night, and as day-light approaches, they hide themselves in the ground. Cabbage, when first set out, and lettuce and other plants of the garden, up to squashes, and other plants of the farm, are attacked by them. Growing muskmelons and watermelons for Northern markets, is now an important industry in the Southern States, especially within easy reach of the shipping ports, some hundreds of acres being occupied by watermelons alone. The grower of melons, as well as of cabbages, etc., finds that his greatest obstacle to success is in the attacks of cut-worms. Various devices have been proposed to ward off their attacks, but among these, none appears to be so sensible, or so effective, as that devised by Dr. A. Oemler, author of "Truck Farming for the South." Dr. Oemler kills off the cut-worm before the plants appear. Upon the watermelon fields he sets poison traps at about fifteen feet apart each way. These "traps" are cabbage or turnip leaves, which have been moistened on the concave side and then dusted with a mixture of Paris-green with twenty parts of flour. These leaves are placed over the fields, poisoned side down, at the distances above stated, before the plants appear.—American Agriculturist.

## Canning Tomatoes.

A lady writer in Purdy's Fruit Recorder, gives the following interesting account of how she succeeds: "We have ten acres of fruit of all kinds and I take a great deal of pride in canning fruit. I get nearly all the prizes at the fairs. I wish you could just peep into my cellar to see my tomatoes and peaches, some canned last fall and some a year ago, not mentioning my other fruit. I will tell you how I can my tomatoes, both red and yellow. I pick the apple tomatoes—the smoothest and best shaped—and scald and skin them very carefully; take the stem out with a penknife, taking care not to cut the tomato so as to let the juice or seed run out, then I place them in the cans, some of them with the stem end next to the can and some with the blossom ends; then I take the juice that has run out of what I have peeled to cook, having no feed or pulp, and add a little salt, and pour on my whole tomatoes until nearly full; then place them in a kettle of cold water, and let them cook till I think they are hot clear through; then I seal them. I use nothing but glass two-quart jars—and after the cover has been on about five minutes I take it off so they will settle, letting the gas out; then I fill up with juice and seal again, and my cans are always full to the cover. A great many have not learned this. You have no idea how nice they look through the glass; they show every vein and rib and look as if they were put up raw, and when used they are just as if they had been taken from the vines—and if you don't believe me try it this summer. I always keep my fruit in the dark, and it don't fade through the glass."

Sowing turnips and plowing for oats is now in order.

## The Time to Plant Potatoes.

The universal custom among our people seems to be to plant Irish potatoes in February and March, for early use, and in July and August for late use. A little experience on the part of the writer has caused him to doubt the wisdom of this practice, and at least to suggest a change, or a fuller experiment. The experience referred to is this:

In the summer of 1886 I sowed turnip seed on the square in which I had raised a most bountiful crop of potatoes. There were a few of the potatoes which were left in the earth. These came up with the turnips and produced small potatoes which lay in the ground all the winter. Early in 1887, when I began to turn over the land, I found these potatoes sprouted and beginning to come up. Without any special care, I left them. Nor was any more attention given them, save to spare their lives while cultivating my early cabbage.

The soil was very highly manured, and of course, the potatoes shared this. They soon outgrew, not only the other vegetables in their vicinity, but also the regular crop of potatoes to which I gave special attention. At the usual time for potatoes to be used, I went to the garden to get some for them. There were plenty of medium sized and small but none very large to be found, though thorough search was made. Some days later, upon going to dinner, I found a dish of tremendously large potatoes, which caused an inquiry as to where they were obtained. I imagine my astonishment when I was informed that they had been gotten from one of these "volunteer" vines. A like result was obtained from each of these "volunteers."

In conversing with Rev. Dr. Bailey, of the Biblical Recorder, a few days later, I found that he had a similar experience, one vine producing twelve potatoes nearly as large as a man's fist. These things have caused me to think that possibly we might improve upon Irish potato culture by changing the time of planting. We shall be glad to have some of our farmers make the experiment and give us the result of their experience. We would suggest the planting of small potatoes from the first or middle of November.

J. E. R.

## Swelling of the Udder.

Swelling of the udder, or garget, is sometimes caused by rheumatism, and is not always an immediate effect of inflammation caused by parturition. It sometimes results from cold taken by the cow lying in a wet field, or upon cold, damp ground. It is always accompanied by fever, or by a chill, during which the animal shivers and trembles. The proper treatment consists of removing the fever by a dose of salts, and afterwards giving saltpetre (nitrate of potash) in half ounce doses, twice in one day. If there is a chill the animal should be well rubbed with woolen cloth, made hot, and then wrapped in some hot blankets. A brisk purgative should be given, and the udder fomented with hot water for two or three hours. The milk should be drawn by a milk tub, and to facilitate this, a weak solution of soda should be injected by means of a syringe.

Many California women cultivate fruit farms. They can do much of the work, such as picking, packing, making raisins and drying fruit. Crystallized figs and apricots are the products of woman's labor, as well as jellies, jams and marmalade, which are sent all over the world.

## Turnip Seed.

In addition to the usual varieties of Turnip Seed, we have in stock a small quantity of the genuine "SOUTHERN PRIZE," which produces large bulbs, remains in the ground in perfect condition the entire winter and will make salad.

R. H. JORDAN & CO.,  
Spring Springs, Conn.

## Fresh TURNIP SEED.

We have just received a fresh stock of BUIST'S TURNIP SEED, warranted to be all the leading varieties sold in this market.

W. M. WILSON & CO.,  
Charlotte, June 24, 1887. Druggists.

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1,000 LBS. BUIST'S WARRANTED ED TURNIP SEED—all desirable varieties—wholesale and retail—just received by

BURWELL & DUNN,  
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Just received, a large line of New Books, including: "John A. Dreame," a Tale, 25 cents. "A Wicked Girl," by Mary Cecil Hay, 25 cents. "Cassidy's Profession," by Geo. Bernard Shaw, 25 cents. "A Modern Telemachus," by Charlotte Young, 25 cents. "The Gully River," by Wilkie Collins, 25 cents. "Yeast," or Hans Kinsley, 35 cents. "Meg's Secret and Wanted a Wife," by John Strange Winter, 25 cents. "A Strange Inheritance," by F. M. F. Skene, 25 cents. "Cranford," by Mrs. Gaskell, 25 cents. "Golden Bells," by A. R. Pranchon, 25 cents. "Yeast," or Hans Kinsley, 35 cents. "Butts," by Geo. Temple, 25 cents. "Lili Lorraine," by Theo. Gift, 50 cents.

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T. H. Terry, in the Ohio Farmer, says: "Clover will not stay in long on very heavy soil, but to get the best results from its use it should not be cut for hay but one year, any way. Then plow it under and grow some paying crop on the sod. It seems hard just as you have got a good sod to plow it up, but I believe that is the way to make money out of clover. Under some circumstances it may be best to plow the clover under, and at other times it will be wiser to cut it for hay or seed, and return the manure and haalm."

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March 18, 1887.

North Carolina, Mecklenburg County.

In the Superior Court—Before J. M. Morrow, Clerk.

T. J. Dulin and wife Mattie A. Dulin, Geo. A. Ballard and wife Susan I. Ballard, Plaintiffs,

Against

Alice Furr, Florence Lillie Furr, Wm. Clarence Furr, Virgil Furr and Jas. Furr, Defendants.

To the Defendants above named:

You are hereby notified that this is a special proceeding to obtain partition of Land in which you are interested as tenants in common; that the summons herein is returnable on Saturday the sixth (6th) day of August, 1887, at my office in Charlotte, N. C., at which time and place you are required to appear and answer or demur to the complaint herein filed. This July 8th, 1887.

J. M. MORROW,  
Clerk Superior Court.

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